

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT - GLOVES

Effective Date:	December 2001	Policy No:	IC 008D
Cross Referenced:		Origin:	Infection Control
Reviewed Date:	September 2010	Authority:	Edward McManus, M.D.
Revised Date:		Page:	1 of 2

PURPOSE: The use of gloves to aid in reducing the transmission of microorganisms within the hospital.

SUPPORTING DATA: Gloves are worn for three important reasons:

1. To provide a protective barrier and prevent gross contamination of hands when touching blood, body fluids, secretions, mucous membranes, and non-intact skin.
2. To reduce the likelihood that microorganisms present on hands of personnel will be transmitted to patients during invasive or other patient care providers.
3. To reduce the likelihood that hands of personnel contaminated with microorganisms from a patient or a formite can transmit these microorganisms to another patient.

EQUIPMENT: Gloves (in all sizes): latex (sterile and non-sterile), vinyl (sterile and non-sterile), hypo-allergenic (sterile and non-sterile).

- PROCEDURE:**
1. Wear disposable gloves when anticipating contact with or touching blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, and contaminated items.
 2. Put on clean gloves just before touching mucous membranes and non-intact skin. Use disposable gloves once on a single patient – then discard them.
 3. Jewelry, including bracelets and ornate rings, must not be worn.
 4. Nails must be kept short and well manicured. One-eighth inch (1/8”) beyond the finger tip is considered acceptable. Nail polish must be free of chips or cracks, if worn at all. Artificial nails must not be worn; this includes tips, wraps and acrylics.
 5. Always inspect the gloves before and during use. If you find a cut, split, tear, puncture, or damage in any form, such as, peeling or cracking remove the gloves and dispose of in the proper container.
 6. Change gloves between tasks and procedures on the same patient and after contact with material that may contain high concentrations of microorganisms.
 7. Remove gloves promptly after use, before touching non-contaminated items and environmental surfaces, and before going to another patient. Never wash or decontaminate the gloves for reuse.

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8. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves to avoid transfer of microorganisms to other patient or environments. Be careful removing contaminated gloves; do not touch the outside of the glove.
9. If hand-washing facilities are not readily accessible the use of a waterless hand sanitizer is acceptable as an interim measure.
10. If you have dermatitis that is caused or aggravated by wearing gloves, or if you are allergic to disposable gloves, you should wear cotton glove liners, powderless gloves or hypoallergenic gloves. HCH will provide them for you.